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Smallpox in Atlanta.

[Telegram.]

ATLANTA, GA., *February 16, 1898.*

Two cases since last report. Both from county.

THOS. E. VEAL,
Chief Sanitary Department.

Case of smallpox in Brownsville, Tex.

BROWNSVILLE, TEX., *February 7, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on the 3d of February I discovered a case of smallpox at the north corner of the intersection of Elizabeth and Fifth streets in this city. The patient is a Mexican woman 35 years of age. So far she can give no positive history of exposure. In my capacity as city physician I immediately had the house flagged and quarantined, and every precaution is being taken to prevent the disease from spreading.

I am sir, respectfully yours,

FREDERICK J. COMBE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Smallpox in Charlotte, N. C.

RALEIGH, *February 12, 1898.*

SIR: You are hereby informed that 4 cases of smallpox have been reported to this office as existing in Charlotte. The origin of the disease is 1 from Greenville, S. C.; 3 varioloid in vaccinated cases. Precautions taken—isolation and vaccination.

RICH. H. LEWIS,
Secretary of State Board of Health.

Investigation of smallpox at Charlotte, N. C.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *February 14, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to supplement my telegram from Charlotte, N. C., by the following report: In obedience to your telegraphic instructions of 9th instant, I proceeded by first train to Charlotte, N. C., arriving at 10.30 p. m., February 10. I was met by the acting mayor and city and county physicians. I learned that the situation was as follows: A case, diagnosed as smallpox by the authorities, occurred January 22 in the person of William Jackson (colored), railroad hand, recently returned from Greenville, S. C., where it is supposed he contracted the disease. Jackson died on January 27. The case and all exposed persons were isolated, the latter being all vaccinated. One week after the death of William Jackson his son Oscar Jackson, then in quarantine, developed varioloid; about the same time a girl, Sally Wagoner, developed varioloid in a different part of the city, for which no infection could be traced. This case, and all exposed persons, were removed to the pesthouse. An ordinance of compulsory vaccination was passed by the board of aldermen. The execution of this ordinance met with much opposition in some quarters, especially among the factory and mill hands, due in part to the wide-spread rumor that the cases were not smallpox, but more largely to the fact that many persons who had been

vaccinated had very sore and inflamed arms, and that business was being interfered with on that account. The city authorities wished the matter settled by an officer of the Marine-Hospital Service, feeling that his diagnosis would not be questioned, and would demonstrate the necessity for the measures they had inaugurated. On the morning of the 11th instant, accompanied by the city and county physicians, I visited the pesthouse and examined the cases, finding 3 cases of varioloid, 2 of which were recovering, and the other in the third day of eruption; 1 case of variola in fifth day of eruption. I inclose herewith a copy of my report to the mayor (marked No. 1), which gives the essential facts. I was also requested to make any statement or suggestions that might be of benefit to the city. I made the suggestions inclosed (marked No. 2). I inclose other clippings from the editorial and news columns, which will show the sentiments of the people, and how the report was received. The city authorities seemed to be thoroughly satisfied, and treated me with great courtesy. I advised the establishment of a suspect hospital and detention camp in addition to the present pesthouse, and the suggestion will be adopted. The health authorities are capable and energetic, and are making a thorough canvas of the city, vaccinating all unprotected persons. I am informed that more than half the inhabitants have been vaccinated, and the work was still in progress.

Respectfully, yours,

C. P. WERTENBAKER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., in command.

Smallpox in Johnson City, Tenn.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., *February 15, 1898.*

SIR: Since my last report we have had 4 new cases develop here; 3 in quarantine, 2 men, recently from Middlesborough, and 1 woman that had not been away from here, but who had been in quarantine since the 29th of January, and 1 new case that slipped in here from Middlesborough and was concealed by negro friends. The authorities did not have him under guard but forty-eight hours before the eruption was universal; and for eight to twelve days he has been roaming the town at night. He lived across town from the others 1 mile, and we may have lots of cases develop from him.

I am, yours truly,

W. J. MILLER.

P. S.—Will be glad to have any suggestion you think proper. All cases are in pesthouse and guarded.

W. J. M.